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27 August 1961

Vice Admiral ~~Merlin O'Neill~~
Commandant, U. S. Coast Guard
Washington 25, D. C.

My dear Admiral O'Neill:

We have examined your proposal regarding a system of certification for Soviet and Satellite ships bound for US waters, and the objective of providing a more regular advance notice of such shipping movements certainly merits careful consideration in terms of its connection with US security.

We do have some reservations regarding the achievement of the planned objectives as proposed, and we would welcome discussions with your representative. I would suggest also, that the Navy be included in such discussions as they have certain well defined responsibilities in connection with operational shipping matters.

I suggest that your representative get in touch with Mr. Max Millikan, Assistant Director, to arrange further discussion of the plan.

Sincerely

J. Edgar Hoover

Walter E. Rife
Director

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